

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of converting a personal computer for communicating information on a broadband communication network, said personal computer having a user and a physical location, comprising:

upgrading the broadband communication network to extend broadband service boundaries into a new geographic area;

updating a database to include a plurality of physical locations within the new geographic area;

accessing the database to determine whether said physical location falls within the extended service boundaries for said broadband communication network;

making automation agent software available to the user, the automation agent software configured to establish a dialog with an automation server,

extending an offer to form a contract for said broadband service;

if said physical location falls within said extended service boundaries, receiving an acceptance of the offer from the user, thereby forming a contract for said broadband service electronically offering said user access to said broadband communication network; receiving from said user an electronic order accepting said offer;

remotely qualifying said personal computer for said broadband communication network by determining whether said personal computer meets predetermined acceptance criteria for use of said broadband communication network; and

fulfilling said order by initiating [[an]] said automation agent software on said personal computer to interact with the user and thereby configure a modem coupled to said personal computer for access to said broadband communication network; ~~and~~.

2. (Original) The conversion method of claim 1, wherein said broadband communication network is a DSL network.

3. (Original) The conversion method of claim 2, wherein said qualifying step further comprises using a narrowband modem to contact a DSL line qualification server to test a physical line outside of said broadband communication network.

4. (Original) The conversion method of claim 1, wherein said broadband communication network is a cable network.

5. (Previously Presented) The conversion method of claim 4, wherein said qualifying step further comprises detecting a carrier signal from said broadband communication network.

6. (Original) The conversion method of claim 5, wherein said carrier signal has a signal strength and a set of error codes, and wherein said qualifying step is based at least in part upon said signal strength and said error codes.

7. (Currently Amended) The conversion method of claim 1, wherein said user is selected for said offer based on preestablished pre-established criteria.

8. (Previously Presented) The conversion method of claim 6, wherein at least some of said criteria are stored in the database.

9. (Original) The conversion method of claim 1, wherein said broadband communication network is an ISDN network.

10. (Original) The conversion method of claim 1, wherein said broadband communication network is a wireless network.

11. (Currently Amended) A system for configuring a personal computer for communicating over a broadband communication network, said system comprising:

an automation server remote from but in electrical communication with said personal computer[[,]] ; and

an automation agent within said computer and configured to establish a dialog with said automation server,

wherein said automation server is configured to receive from a user of said personal computer via said personal computer automation agent an electronic order accepting an offer of said broadband service extended, said offer and accepting forming a contract for said broadband service, in response

to such order to remotely qualify said personal computer to use one of several different services offered on said broadband communication network by determining whether said personal computer meets predetermined acceptance criteria to use the one of the several different services offered on said broadband communication network; and to automatically fulfill said order by initiating an automation agent on said personal computer to configure a modem coupled to said personal computer to use the one of the several different services offered on said broadband communication network.

12. (Original) The configuration system of claim 11, wherein said broadband communication network is a DSL network.

13. (Original) The configuration system of claim 12, wherein said automation agent instantiates a narrowband modem to contact a DSL line qualification server to test a physical line.

14. (Original) The configuration system of claim 11, wherein said broadband communication network is a cable network.

15. (Previously Presented) The configuration system of claim 14, wherein said automation agent is configured to initiate detection of a carrier signal from said broadband communication network.

16. (Original) The configuration system of claim 15, wherein said carrier signal has a signal strength and a set of error codes, and wherein said signal strength and said error codes are used by said automation agent when qualifying said personal computer.

17. (Currently Amended) The configuration system of claim 11, wherein said user is selected for said offer based on preestablished pre-established criteria.

18. (Original) The configuration system of claim 17, wherein at least some of said criteria are stored in a subscriber profile database.

19. (Original) The configuration system of claim 11, wherein said broadband communication network is an ISDN network.

20. (Original) The configuration system of claim 11, wherein said broadband communication network is a wireless network.

Claims 21 – 33 (Cancelled)

34. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said dialog includes a direct sale of said broadband service in response to marketing said broadband service to said user.

35. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said offer is extended via said dialog.

36. (New) The system of claim 11, wherein said dialog includes a direct sale of broadband service in response to marketing of said broadband service to a user of said computer.

37. (New) The system of claim 11, wherein said offer is extended via said dialog.